

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0225

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 09377

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CO XM

SUBJECT: BOGOTA MTG OF FONMINS: ROUNDUP OF DEVELOPMENTS

REFERENCES: BOGOTA 9331, 9335 AND 9359

1. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE SCHEDULED THREE DAY MEETING OF FONMINS, CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS INDICATED THAT A NUMBER OF MINISTERS HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT FOLLOWING THE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE PREPARATORY MTG (BOGOTA 9331 AND 9335). THEIR MISGIVINGS CONCERNED BOTH THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PAPER, AND THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL NEED, PERCEIVED BY A NUMBER OF THE FONMINS, TO OBTAIN MORE PRESS ATTENTION THAN WOULD BE AFFORDED BY STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE DOCUMENT.

2. AS THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDED, HOWEVER, A CONSENSUS BEGAN TO DEVELOP THAT THE PREPARATORY GROUPS WOULD DO QUITE NICELY WITHOUT MAJOR CHANGES. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MORNING SESSION ON NOV 15 WAS AN ATTEMPT BY JAMAICA, BACKED BY MEXICO, TO INCLUDE A STATEMENT ON

CUBA IN THE FINAL DECLARATION. JAMAICA ALSO PUSHED FOR INCLUSION OF THE BELIZE QUESTION. GUATEMALA OBJECTED  
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AND RECEIVED LESS BACKING OF MOST DELEGATIONS.

BRAZIL AND CHILE TOOK THE LEAD IN OPPOSING THE INCLUDING OF CUBA.

3. SOME INFORMAL CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO EXTENDING THE CONFERENCE PAST ITS THREE-DAY SCHEDULE, BUT WE NOW UNDERSTAND THAT PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS ON THE PART OF A NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS MAKE SUCH AN EXTENSION UNLIKELY AND THAT AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO WIND UP THE PROCEEDINGS ON THE MORNING OF NOV 16.

4. EL SIGLO (CONSERVATIVE) CARRIED AN UNATTRIBUTED FRONT PAGE STORY ON NOV 15 STATING THAT THE FONMINS WOULD RECONVENE IN MEXICO ON FEBRUARY 5 WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN ATTENDANCE. RADIO REPORTS OF THE FEB DATE ATTRIBUTED THE INFORMATION TO MEXICAN FONMIN RABASA.

5. LOCAL NEWSPAPER MEN ARE, IN CONVERSATIONS WITH AN EMBASSY PRESS OFFICER, TAKING A DIM VIEW OF THE PROSPECTIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MTG. WHILE THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY DAILIES, EL SIGLO AND LA REPUBLICA, ARE STANDING BY THEIR ORIGINAL PROGNOSIS THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE OF TRANSCENDENTAL IMPORTANCE, THEY ARE DOING SO WITHOUT MUCH WORKING LEVEL ENTHUSIASM.

6. LIBERAL DAILY EL ESPECTADOR IS GIVING THE CONFERENCE RELATIVELY HEAVY COVERAGE AND VERY SCANT EDITORIAL COMMENT. THE SAME APPLIES TO LIBERAL DAILY EL TIEMPO, WHOSE POLITICAL EDITOR GABRIEL GUTIERREZ OBSERVED, TO AN EMBASSY PRESS OFFICER THAT, DESPITE THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF THE MINISTERS, THE BOGOTA MTG WOULD BE LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM A DOZEN OTHER LATIN

AMERICAN MTGS. TIEMPO'S MANAGING EDITOR, ENRIQUE SANTOS, OPINED PRIVATELY THAT, WHILE VAZQUEZ'S INITIATIVE WAS WORTHWHILE, IT WAS TO AS DOUBTED THAT ANY SIGNIFICANT CONCRETE PROPOSALS WOULD EMERGE FROM THE BOGOTA MTG.

7. THERE HAVE BEEN NO SECURITY PROBLEMS THROUGHOUT NOV 15. RADICALS AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY ATTEMPTED UNSUCCESSFULLY ON NOV 14 TO ORGANIZE A DEMONSTRATION PROTESTING THE PRESENCE OF THE CHILEAN FONMIN. TWO FACTORS THAT COULD HAVE REPERCUSSIONS ARE THE CLOSING OF THE PEDAGOGICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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UNIVERSITY JUST PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE AND A HUNGER STRIKE AND SIT-IN AT THE CHAMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES BY STRIKING TEACHERS. NEVERTHELESS, THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE, IF ANY, ENTHUSIASM FOR TROUBLE ON THE PART OF MALCONTENTED. THE GOVERNMENT HAS DEALT HARSHLY IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS WITH STRIKERS AND STUDENT RADICALS AND HAS MADE PLAIN IT WILL TOLERATE NO NONSENSE DURING THE CONFERENCE.

WHITE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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